

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Vignot (US Patent 4,776,495). Claims 7-20 are allowed.

By this Amendment, Applicants hereby cancel claims 1-3, 5 and 6. Applicants respectfully submit that the cancellation of these claims places the application in condition for immediate allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-20 are allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 7-20 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Vignot (US Patent 4,776,495).

Without conceding to the merits of the Examiner's rejection, and in the interest of compact prosecution, Applicants hereby cancel claims 1-3, 5 and 6, rendering the instant rejection moot.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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